



MAY 2024

IMPROVE I-70 MONTHLY REPORT

Missouri's FY2024 budget passed by the General Assembly and signed in law by Governor Parson provides General Revenue for the costs to plan, design, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate and repair three lanes in each direction on nearly 200 miles of Interstate 70, from Blue Springs to Wentzville.

STAY IN THE KNOW: www.modot.org/improvei70



PROJECT #1: COLUMBIA TO KINGDOM CITY PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Improve I-70 Central Project Team recently presented the basic design plans to over 200 people at the public hearings for the first project of the Improve I-70 Program, Columbia to Kingdom City. These meetings, held in both Columbia (May 1) and Kingdom City (May 2), also highlighted traffic control plans, schedule, and anticipated construction impacts of the project. Engineers from MoDOT and the contractor Millstone Weber and their designer Jacobs Inc. were present to meet with the public and answer questions. Those who were unable to attend the meetings in person are invited to **review the materials and provide comments online now through May 23**.



Public Hearings were held on May 1 (Columbia) and May 2 (Kingdom City) for the Columbia to Kingdom City project.

Construction is anticipated to begin this summer and should be completed by late 2027. The planned improvements from Millstone Weber and Jacobs include new concrete pavement on all three lanes of Interstate 70 in each direction for the 20-mile section between Columbia and Kingdom City, and improved interchange designs at the U.S. Route 63 and Route 54 interchanges at I-70. Additionally, throughout construction two lanes of travel will be available for both directions of I-70 during peak hours. Learn more and leave comments via the project website: www.modot.org/improvei70/columbiakingdomcity.

IMPROVE I-70 GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

MoDOT will be hosting a groundbreaking ceremony celebrating the kick off of construction on the first portion of the Improve I-70 Program, Columbia to Kingdom City, at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at the Drury Plaza Hotel East located at 3100 Interstate 70 Drive SE, Columbia, MO 65201. The public is welcome to attend. This groundbreaking event celebrates the start of construction of the first project of the historic Improve I-70 Program from U.S. Route 63 in Columbia to Route 54 in Kingdom City. Guests are encouraged to carpool with any others from their organizations as parking space will be limited. Please arrive early to find parking, and you may have to walk from an adjacent parking lot.

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INNOVATIVE INTERCHANGES ON THE WAY

Last summer, \$2.8 billion of General Revenue funding was allocated for adding a third lane in each direction of Interstate 70. As MoDOT evaluated the market conditions throughout the state, it was determined that the first project would be best suited for the Columbia to Kingdom City stretch of I-70, and that it would include previously funded MoDOT STIP projects at the I-70 interchanges at U.S. Route 63 (Columbia) and Route 54 (Kingdom City).

The Design-Build contractor team Millstone Weber and their designer Jacobs Inc. brought forth cutting edge engineering with their design for Project #1: Columbia to Kingdom City. Specifically, the design for the I-70 interchanges provide a unique plan for maximizing traffic flow and providing for the variety of traffic movements on and off the interstate, as well as to the local streets. MoDOT traffic engineers reviewed these unique designs to ensure the plans meet federal requirements and safety regulations, and are efficient and reliable when it comes to handling the amount of traffic using these interchanges both now and in the future.

Traffic modeling is a method to simulate, analyze and predict how traffic will flow through the new design. This analysis has shown that both interchange designs will help the traffic flow better and allow for improved safety once constructed. It was also evaluated for twenty years from now with growth factors figured in to help ensure the continuing operation of the interchanges. The project team will continue to talk with people in the community to listen to concerns about traffic flow and address questions. There are efforts underway to ensure the signage installed is clear and easy to follow. The team is also already starting the process of reaching out to third party GPS systems, i.e. Google Maps or Waze, to update their platforms as traffic pattern changes are made real time with construction at these locations.

PROJECT #2: WARRENTON TO WENTZVILLE

The second project in the series of contracts for the Improve I-70 Program involves the stretch of I-70 between Warrenton and Wentzville. In addition to the third lane of travel in each direction of I-70, which is funded through General Revenue funds, this project has also incorporated several other projects that were previously programmed through MoDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). These improvements will be done in one contract for this stretch of I-70 and include:

- Realignment at the railroad bridge on I-70 between Wentzville Parkway and Route Z.
- Interchange improvements at I-70 and I-64/Route 61
- Add a third lane of travel to eastbound and westbound I-64 between I-70 and Route K.

To help provide additional information to industry partners who are interested in competing to win this contract, MoDOT is hosting an industry meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Holt High School (600 Campus Drive Wentzville, MO). MoDOT plans to issue the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Project #2 in late May. The list of teams shortlisted to compete on the project should be announced to the public in early July. MoDOT plans to announce the selected best value team in November at the monthly Commission meeting, where further details on the project's design and construction schedule will be shared. Construction on this project could begin in the Spring of 2025.

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